



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

Hog cholera.

In regard to the hog epizootic, the appearance of which I reported on February 16, Dr. Barradas has made a report founded on his special investigations. He says that the epidemic originated among a drove of 20 hogs sold by a merchant at Bananal. All the places through which those hogs have passed were speedily infected, especially Bananal and its vicinity, where the hogs have been almost exterminated. The dead animals were thrown into the river of Bananal, and the epidemic spread largely along both sides of the river as far as Sandade. By secretions of the animals, by the wind and by running water, and by people, who have had to work with the animals, the infectious matter has been further spread. In that locality from 3,000 to 4,000 animals died of the disease. The disease has been found to be real hog cholera, with essential participation of the lungs pneumo-enteritis. It was bacteriologically possible to obtain the specific microorganism of the disease.

Relation of natality to mortality.

In regard to the decided disproportion between natality and mortality in the city of Rio de Janeiro, to which I have had occasion to refer in my annual reports, Dr. Bulhoes Carvalho has made a valuable communication to the Academy of Medicine. The following shows distinctly that disproportion: In 1893, 13,527 deaths, 13,825 births. In 1894, 19,360 deaths, 13,485 births. In 1895, 18,226 deaths, 14,535 births. In 1896, 19,275 deaths, 14,425 births.

On account, however, of the fluctuating character of the population of Rio de Janeiro, this disproportion is much less unfavorable than is apparently the case. Moreover, it may be positively asserted, that the reported number of deaths is entirely correct, but that many births are not reported, and that in the civil registration there are many omissions. It is rare that a Brazilian family is not, on an average, composed of 5 children.

As an important cause of that disproportion, may be considered the large numbers of deaths in consequence of insufficient hygienic measures; for instance, in the year 1893, when there was no serious epidemic prevailing, the number of births exceeded the deaths.

The second factor is the insufficient number of survivors among the children born to compensate for the mortality resulting from the lack of hygienic precautions. This is shown by the following table of the mortality among children under 5 years of age.

Years.	Mortality of children up to 5 years.	General mortality.	Percent- age.
1893.....	3,736	12,398	30.1
1894.....	4,360	18,366	23.8
1895.....	5,407	17,079	31.6
1896.....	4,807	18,173	26.4

As third factor Dr. Bulhoes Carvalho calls attention to the fact of the prevalence of intermarriage among Brazilians, which prevents the introduction of fresh blood for promoting the fecundity and vigor of the race.

Statistical data show that foreigners seldom marry here. Marriages between foreigners and Brazilian ladies are not frequent; still less is